Denning, Stephen M. (for Petitioner/Successor Trustee Matthew Miller)

Eighth and Final Account and Report of the Trustee of the Alison Miller Special Needs Trust and Petition for Its Settlement, for Approval of Attorney Fees for Ordinary Services and for Final Distribution

DOD: 1/9/12	1		or Truston is notitionar	NEEDS / DDODLEASS /
DOD: 1/8/13	MATTHEW MILLER,	success	or Trustee, is petitioner.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/ COMMENTS:
	Account period:	1/9/13 –	10/31/13	COMMENTS.
	Account period.	1,7,10	10/01/10	Continued from 3/4/14.
	Accounting	_	\$771,179.29	Minute order states Counsel
Cont. from 030414	Beginning POH		•	to submit a declaration
Aff.Sub.Wit.	Ending POH	-	\$723,713.83	regarding the 45 hours
✓ Verified	1			exhausted to prepare the 8 th
	Trustee	-	waives	Account.
Inventory			4.	
PTC	Attorney	-	\$16,137.50 (per	Need further declaration
Not.Cred.			on for 64.55 hours @	of attorney fees re: 8 th
✓ Notice of	\$250.00 per hour account, reviewir			Account.
Hrg	account, reviewith appearance.)	ig DHC3	CIGITI GITA COULT	
✓ Aff.Mail W/				
Aff.Pub.	Petitioner states A	Allison Mil	ller the Trust granted	
Sp.Ntc.	Allison Miller a po	wer of a	ppointment over the	
Pers.Serv.	assets of the Trust			
Conf.	_		d on 8/14/12, in this	
Screen	· ·		etitioner executed a	
Letters	power of appoint	ment or	n Allison's benait.	
	Petitioner states h	a has he	en served with a	
Duties/Supp	claim from the De			
Objections	Services in the an	•		
Video	reimbursement of		•	
Receipt	Alison's behalf pri		•	
CI Report				
9202	Petitioner prays fo			
√ Order		ation of t	he trust be brought to	
Aff. Posting	a close;	اعام الما		Reviewed by: KT
Status Rpt	_		ccount be settled,	Reviewed on: 3/20/14
UCCJEA			d, and all acts and ner set forth in it or	Updates:
Citation		•	set forth in it, be	Recommendation:
FTB Notice	ratified confirm			File 1 – Miller
	3. Payment of a		• •	
	\$16,137.50.	,		
	4. Distribution of	the Trust	to the Department of	
			n the amount of	
	1		emaining assets being	
			orothers, Matthew	
			er pursuant to the	
	power of app	ointmen	<u>†.</u>	

Atty Hemb, Richard E., of Hemb Law Office (for Gloria Reyes, Administrator)

Probate Status Hearing Re: Failure to File the Inventory and Appraisal and Failure to File a First Account or Petition for Final Distribution

DOD: 9/16/2009		GLORIA REYES, daughter, was appointed	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
		Administrator with Full IAEA authority without	
		bond on 2/10/2010.	OFF CALENDAR
		= Letters issued on 2/10/2010.	
Со	nt. from	Etellers issued on 2/10/2010.	Petition for Termination of
01	1014, 021114	Pursuant to Probate Code § 8800(b), Final	Further Proceedings was
	Aff.Sub.Wit.	Inventory and Appraisal was due 6/10/2009.	filed 3/18/2014 by Attorney Hemb, and is set for hearing
√	Verified		on 4/29/2014.
	Inventory	First account and/or petition for final distribution	,_,,
	PTC	was due February 2011.	<u>Page 2B</u> is the Motion to be
	_	Notice of Status Hearing filed 11/15/2013 set this	Relieved as Counsel.
	Not.Cred.	status hearing on 1/10/2014 for failure to file the	
	Notice of		Continued from 2/11/2014 to coincide with the hearing on
	Hrg	inventory and appraisal and first account and petition for final distribution.	the Motion to be Relieved as
✓	Aff.Mail	permon for find distribution.	Counsel.
	Aff.Pub.	Status Conference Statement filed 1/7/2014	
	Sp.Ntc.	states:	
	Pers.Serv.		
	Conf.	The only asset in the estate was Decedent's	
	Screen	personal residence located on Dwight Way,	
	Letters	Fresno;	
	Duties/Supp	After negotiating with Wells Fargo Reverse	
	Objections	Mortgage, the Administrator made the	
	Video	decision that efforts to sell the real property	
	Receipt	would not bring in sufficient funds to pay off	
	CI Report	the encumbrance and costs of sale;	
	9202	The lender foreclosed without a probate	
	Order	appraisal;	
	Aff. Posting	This appears to be a no-asset estate;	Reviewed by: LEG
✓	Status Rpt	Robert Reyes, spouse of Administrator Gloria	Reviewed on: 3/24/14
	UCCJEA	Reyes, has recently advised legal counsel that	Updates:
	Citation	Gloria Reyes passed away on 5/26/2012.	Recommendation:
	FTB Notice		File 2A – Juarez
			2.4

2A

Hemb, Richard E., of Hemb Law Office (Movant)

Notice of Motion and Motion to be Relieved as Counsel

DOD: 9/16/2	2009	RICHARD E. HEMB, Attorney of record for Personal Representative GLORIA REYES, is Movant.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/ COMMENTS:
Cont. from	021114	Movant requests under Code of Civil Procedure § 284(2) and CA Rule of Court 3.1362 an order permitting him to be relieved as attorney of record in this proceeding.	Continued from 2/11/2014. Minute Order states the
Aff.Sub.\ ✓ Verified Inventor PTC Not.Cree	у	 Movant states in the accompanying declaration in support of the motion that he makes this motion to be relieved as counsel under Code of Civil Procedure § 284(2) instead of filing a consent under § 284(1) for the following reasons: No inventory and appraisal was filed in this case because the personal representative GLORIA REYES never supplied requested information on estate assets; 	matter is continued to 3/25/2014 pending the filing of a petition to close the estate. Note: If Court grants
Notice of Hrg ✓ Aff.Mail Aff.Pub.	of	 He provided Gloria Reyes instructions and request to take action by written communication and telephone calls from 2/10/2010 up to and including 2/2/2011; No response was ever received from the client; He learned that the real property in the estate was 	the instant motion to be relieved, no person will exist to close this no-asset estate, as the
Sp.Ntc. Pers.Serv Conf. Screen	v.	 foreclosed by a lender; He is not aware of efforts to sell the real property to a third party, or if such a sale was possible to avoid foreclosure; On 1/2/2014, he received a call from ROBERT REYES, 	personal representative is deceased, and pursuant to the Notice of Motion Judicial Council form MC-051 itself: "the client will be solely
Letters Duties/S Objection		husband of Gloria Reyes, who confirmed that the property was lost via foreclosure; • Mr. Reyes also indicated to Movant that Gloria Reyes, the court-appointed representative, died on 5/26/2012, and that Mr. Reyes informed Court staff of this fact by telephone call; • Movant has been led to believe, and does in fact now believe, that the client is now deceased. Declaration of Robert Reyes filed 1/17/2014 states: • He was married to Gloria Reyes; she was appointed Administrator by the Court on 2/10/2010; • Gloria Reyes made a decision after exploring the alternatives that selling Decedent's real property on Dwight Way would fail to provide sufficient funds to pay off the encumbrance by Wells Fargo Reverse Mortgage and other selling costs; said real property was eventually taken by Wells Fargo Reverse Mortgage and was the only asset in the estate; Notice Judicial MC-051 client was client were provided that MC-051 client were provided that M	
Video Receipt CI Repo			responsible for the case."
✓ Order Aff. Posti	pt		Reviewed by: LEG Reviewed on: 3/24/14
UCCJEA Citation FTB Notice			Recommendation: File 2B – Juarez
		Gloria Reyes passed away on 5/26/2012 (copy of death certificate attached) and was the same person who was appointed as personal representative of the estate.	2B

Lydia Peters (CONS/PE)

Case No. 10CEPR00167

Watson, Dennis L. (for Marguerite S. Hughes – Conservator – Petitioner)

(1) Second and Final Accounting & Report of Conservator; Petition for (2) Waiver of Fees to Conservator of Person and Estate, (3) Attorney's Fees, (4) Distribution of Assets on Hand to Probate Case

DOD: 4-30-13	MARGUERITE S. HUGHES, Niece and Conservator, is Petitioner.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/ COMMENTS:
Cont. from 021114 Aff.Sub.Wit.	Account period: 5-18-11 through 4-30-13 Accounting: \$765,196.01 Beginning POH: \$480,744.00 Ending POH: \$502,772.66	Attorney provides a declaration, but does not provide itemization. As previously noted
Aff.Sub.Wit. Verified Inventory PTC Not.Cred. Notice of Hrg	Ending POH: \$502,772.66 Account period: 4-30-13 through 11-30-13 Accounting: \$531,378.66 Beginning POH: \$502,772.66 Ending POH: \$489,750.99 (\$138,861.00 cash plus annuity, bonds, taxes withheld) Conservator: Waived Petitioner states she has spent over 200 hours providing services including frequently visiting the care facility and meeting with staff to ensure care, diet, and services, payment of bills, and frugal management of the estate. Petitioner states that she could reasonably request \$6,000.00, which works out to about \$30/hr; however, Petitioner is waiving her fees at this time. Attorney: \$5,000.00 Attorney states he spent approx. 53 hours @ \$250/hr, which would total \$13,250.00; however, the request is reduced to \$5,000.00. Declaration includes: • Approx. five (5) hours preparing copies and mailing	itemization. As previously noted, the Court may require itemization. 2. Need order pursuant to Local Rule 7.6.1. Reviewed by: skc Reviewed on: 3-24-14 Updates: Recommendation: File 3 – Peters

Matlak, Steven M. (for Lisa Megerdichian – Conservator/Petitioner)

(1) First Account Current, Report of Conservator and Petition for Its Settlement and(2) Allowance of Attorneys' Fees and Costs

Age: 39	LISA MEGERDICHIAN, Conservator, is Petitioner.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/
	Account period: 02/27/13 - 12/31/13	COMMENTS:
	Accounting - \$147,251.26 Beginning POH - \$122,642.26 Ending POH - \$128,782.53	
Cont. from	Ending POH - \$128,782.53	
Aff.Sub.Wit.	Petitioner states that the conservatee receives	
✓ Verified	government benefits on a debit card. The debit card is in	
Inventory	possession of and used by the conservatee and monitored by the Petitioner for the appropriateness of the	
PTC	expenditures. The conservatee uses the debit card	
Not.Cred.	primarily for food, fuel to those who transport him, clothing,	
✓ Notice of Hrg	entertainment, and toiletries and supplies. Periodically,	
✓ Aff.Mail w/	Petitioner transfers funds from the debit card account to the conservatorship account to cover bills and expenses.	
Aff.Pub.	The debit card payments will discontinue in February 2014.	
Sp.Ntc.	Thereafter Petitioner intends to provide the conservatee	
Pers.Serv.	with a separate debit card funded with \$500.00 at the beginning of each month and \$500.00 in the middle of	
Conf. Screen	each month. Petitioner believes providing the	
Letters	conservatee with access to these funds allows him a	
Duties/Supp	degree of independence that he desires. Petitioner	
Objections	intends to monitor the appropriateness of the expenditures.	
Video	ехренаногоз.	
Receipt	Petitioner has provided an accounting of the debit card	
✓ CI Report	activity for the period of 02/27/13 – 12/31/13 as follos:	
✓ 2620(c)	Accounting - \$36,167.61	
✓ Order	Beginning POH - \$8,035.58	
Aff. Posting	Ending POH - \$386.97	Reviewed by: JF
Status Rpt	Conservator - waived	Reviewed on: 03/21/14
UCCJEA	Attorney - \$6,289.50 (12.5 attorney hours	Updates:
Citation	(.2 @ \$415/hr;1.8 @ \$315/hr and 10.3 @ \$250/hr.) and 22.7	Recommendation:
FTB Notice	paralegal hours @135/hr.)	File 4 –
	Costs - \$577.50 (probate referee, filing fees)	Assodourian
	Petitioner prays for an Order: 1. Approving, allowing and settling the First Account and report of Conservator; and 2. Authorizing the attorney's fees and costs.	
	Court Investigator Julie Negrete filed a report on 02/14/14.	

5

Burnside, Leigh W. (for John P. McCann and Colleen E. Dempsey – Co-Executors – Petitioners)

Petition for Citation Compelling Daniel J. McCann to Account for Estate Assets
and to Transfer Property to Co-Executors

DOD: 8-7-10	JOHN P. MCCANN and COLLEEN E. DEMPSEY,	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
DOD. 0-7-10	Co-Executors, are Petitioners.	1. The petition alleges
		wrongdoing prior to the
	Petitioners state Elizabeth A. McCann died	death of the decedent and
	testate on 8-7-10. Petitioners were appointed as	an order under Probate
	Co-Executors of the estate on 10-25-13. Mrs.	Code §859 requires findings
Aff.Sub.Wit.	McCann's will is a pour-over will that provides	that may be appropriate to civil action rather than
Verified	that any assets not held in the John P. McCann	litigation within the probate
Inventory	and Elizabeth A. McCann Declaration of Trust	estate. Need authority to
PTC	dated April 2, 1999 (the trust) at the time of her	continue under this section.
	death, shall, upon administration, be distributed	
Not.Cred.	to the trustees of her survivor's trust for distribution	2. Also, the assets are alleged
Notice of	according to its terms, as amended. Petitioners	to be trust assets rather than estate assets. Petitioners
Hrg	are also the co-trustees of Mrs. McCann's	allege that Daniel McCann
Aff.Mail	survivor's trust.	has refused and continues
Aff.Pub.	Dakking an ababa kata kata ayan a salah da ayan a	to refuse to provide an
Sp.Ntc.	Petitioners state that pursuant to the terms of the	accounting of these assets
Pers.Serv.	trust, Dr. and Mrs. McCann declared their intent	in connection with the trust,
Conf.	that all assets owned by them, jointly or singly, including all assets subsequently acquired, are	and have now filed on behalf of the estate <i>in</i>
Screen	assets of the trust. Upon Dr. McCann's death on	abundance of caution if the
Letters	10-12-06, Mrs. McCann became the sole trustee	assets are indeed Mrs.
	of the trust. The trust provided that all assets of	McCann's individual assets.
Duties/Supp	the trust were to be divided and allocated	The Court may require
Objections	among a survivor's trust, a marital trust, and a	authority to continue at this
Video	unified credit trust.	time in this estate case
Receipt		rather than in the trust action or some other civil
CI Report	On 10-7-08, Mrs. McCann stepped back from the	action under W&I Code
9202	day-to-day administration of the trust and	under the circumstances.
Order	appointed four of her children to serve as co-	
	trustees: John, Colleen, Kathleen M. Whitehurst,	3. Petitioners request payment
	and Daniel J. McCann ("Dan"). Mrs. McCann	of attorney fees from Dan's
	also signed an asset allocation agreement	share of the trust. Need
	dividing the trust assets as set forth above.	authority for this order within the estate case.
		ille esigle cuse.
	Prior to and following her appointment of the four	
Aff. Posting	children as co-trustees, there were two accounts	Reviewed by: skc
Status Rpt	at Merrill Lynch titled in the name of "Elizabeth A. McCann." These accounts consisted of a Cash	Reviewed on: 3-24-14
UCCJEA	Management Account (CMA) and a Loan	Updates:
Citation	Management Account (LMA), both of which	Recommendation:
FTB Notice	were used to pay Mrs. McCann's personal	File 5 – McCann
	expenses.	
	·	
	SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES	
	<u> </u>	F

Page 2

Petitioners state that although these accounts were understood to be assets of the sub-trust, title remained in the name of Mrs. McCann individually.

Unbeknownst to Petitioners, Dan, who resided with Mrs. McCann at her homes in San Antonio, Texas, and Vermont between 2007 and 2009, obtained a written **durable power of attorney dated 3-18-08 (the 2008 DPOA)** that gave him complete authority over the Merrill Lynch CMA and LMA (attached). While the DPOA authorized Dan to make gifts to himself, his authority was limited to gifts for his "health, education, support or maintenance."

Petitioners state Dan had also been appointed as a co-attorney-in-fact for Mrs. McCann under a **separate durable power of attorney dated 5-21-07 (the 2007 DPOA)**. While this DPOA gave Dan authority to make gifts to himself, the amount of the gifts could not exceed the amount of the annual federal gift tax exclusion.

Petitioners are informed and believe and allege thereon that by the terms of the 2007 DPOA and the 2008 DPOA, as well as his status as a co-trustee, Dan occupied the position of a fiduciary and owed a fiduciary duty to at all times act in the best interests of Mrs. McCann. Mrs. McCann reposed her trust and confidence in Dan, her youngest son, and believed in his fidelity and integrity by entrusting him with the authority to engage in transactions on the Merrill Lynch CMA and LMA.

Petitioners state that in breach of his fiduciary duty, in bad faith, and without the knowledge or consent of Petitioners, Mrs. McCann, or co-trustee Kathleen, Dan utilized the DPOAs and his authority as a co-trustee to make a number of substantial unauthorized expenditures from the Merrill Lynch CMA and LMA while he was living with and helping care for Mrs. McCann and purportedly handling her affairs, including, but not limited to:

- Payments of \$781,966.39 to American Express for Dan's and his companion Steven Mullen's personal credit card bills;
- Approx. \$225,000.00 of additional expenditures for Dan's personal benefit.
- \$1,055.908.28 between June 2007 and October 2009 (an average of \$37,711/month) (See petition for specifics)

Petitioners state some of the items Dan purchased were a Cartier gold bracelet, designer shoes, airfare, artwork, Louis Vuitton luggage, hotel stays, a silver and gold dog tag for his golden retriever, and fabrics and furnishings for clients of his interior design business that Petitioners believe were also separately paid for by his design clients. Dan never reimbursed the CMA for any of the monies used for personal and business expenses.

Petitioners state that while Dan was living with Mrs. McCann and following her execution of the asset allocation agreement, Petitioners attempted to obtain Dan's cooperation to change the title of the CMA and LMA to reflect their inclusion as assets of the sub-trusts; however, Petitioners were unable to obtain Dan's cooperation and thus title remained in Mrs. McCann's name individually, although both accounts were used to pay expenses related to trust administration.

SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES

5 Elizabeth A. McCann (Estate)

Case No. 13CEPR00437

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Petitioners state prior to Mrs. McCann's death on 8-7-10, Dan never disclosed the extent of his use of the funds from the CMA and LMA, and did not permit her to review the monthly statements or grant her access to account information online. Following her death, Petitioners requested an accounting for the benefit of the trust. Dan refused and continues to refuse to provide a complete accounting of the nature and purpose of his disbursements from the CMA and LMA.

On 5-9-12, Petitioners, in their capacity as successor co-trustees of the trust and sub-trusts, filed a petition against Dan to recover the funds misappropriated by him from the CMA and LMA. This petition was filed as a trust proceeding on the grounds that the accounts were trust assets notwithstanding their title in Mrs. McCann's name individually.

In about April 2013, Dan took the position that the CMA was not an asset of the trust, but was an asset of Mrs. McCann individually, and most recently at his deposition in November 2013, Dan admitted that a number of disbursements were for his personal or business expenses, or those of his companion, and he should have reimbursed Mrs. McCann. Accordingly, within the last three years, due to information provided by Dan, Petitioners became aware of his theft of assets purportedly belonging to Mrs. McCann individually.

Petitioners state Dan owed fiduciary duties to Mrs. McCann due to his role as her primary caretaker, as her attorney-in-fact under two DPOAs and as the person in whom she placed her trust and confidence to manage her income and expenses in her best interest. Petitioners state Dan in bad faith breached these fiduciary duties by misappropriating assets from the CMA and LMA, by refusing to provide information regarding his financial activities under the 2007 DPOA or to the co-trustees of the trust at the time ("none of their business"), by actively concealing from Mrs. McCann the full scope of his use of her assets, and by preventing her from opening her own mail and discovering the improper expenditures herself. When asked to account, Dan refused, and continues to refuse, to provide a complete accounting.

Though Petitioners have already asserted in the trust action that the CMA and LMA were trust assets during Mrs. McCann's life, and remain assets of the trust to this date, this petition is filed in the probate action out of an abundance of caution because the co-trustees cannot recover assets belonging to the estate notwithstanding that the co-trustees are the beneficiaries, in their capacities as fiduciaries, of Mrs. McCann's estate under the terms of the will. If Dan is correct and these accounts were personal non-trust assets of Mrs. McCann, they would be subject to the estate and not the trust.

SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES

5 Elizabeth A. McCann (Estate)

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Based on the foregoing, and pursuant to Probate Code §§ 1241 and 8873, Dan should be ordered to appear before this Court and account for his expenditures from the CMA and LMA and be compelled to produce all documents relevant to the nature and purpose of said expenditures and transfers. As to those made in bad faith, Dan should be ordered to return or reimburse the estate with interest and should be held liable for twice the value ordered under §859.

Petitioners pray for an order:

- 1. Directing Dan to account and report for his use of any and all of Mrs. McCann's non-trust assets;
- 2. Directing Dan to return to, or reimburse, the estate for all assets wrongfully taken by him and by his companion with interest at the legal rate;
- 3. Directing Dan to pay the estate an amount equal to twice the value of all assets recovered herein pursuant to Probate Code §859;
- 4. Directing that Petitioners' attorneys' fees and costs be charged against Dan's share of the trsut upon final distribution; and
- 5. For such other and further orders as the Court deems proper.

Shafer, Claudia Y. (of Murphys, CA for Hugo Noroyan – father/Contestant) Atty Kruthers, Heather H. (for Public Administrator – Administrator) Atty Motsenbocker, Gary L. (for Patricia English – mother/Contestant) Atty Keeler, William J. (for Ian Mitchinson – friend/Respondent) Atty Contest and Grounds of Objection to Probate of Purported Will On 01/23/14, IAN MITCHINSON, friend, filed a **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:** DOD: 03/28/13 Petition for Probate seeking to be appointed **Notes:** Father, Hugo Noroyan and as Administrator with Will Annexed and have Mother, Patricia English, both filed a holographic instrument purported to be competing Petitions to be decedent's will dated 11/02/12 admitted to appointed as Administrator. On Probate. 08/19/13, the Court denied both Cont. from petitions and appointed the Aff.Sub.Wit. Public Administrator. Letters of Contest and Grounds of Objection to Probate Administration were issued to the of Purported Will filed 02/21/14 by Patricia Verified Public Administrator on 08/30/13. English (mother) states: Inventory 1. She has standing to contest and object to Note: Contest and Grounds for PTC the purported because she is an intestate Objection to Probate of Purported heir of the decedent. Not.Cred. Will was filed 02/26/14 by Hugo 2. The alleged document proffered as Richard Noroyan (decedent's Notice of Х decedent's will does not meet the father) and is set for hearing on Hrg statutorily prescribed validity requirements 04/02/14. Aff.Mail w/ of the Probate Code for a will. 3. Contestant alleges that the "will" is not, Aff.Pub. The Matter is set for a settlement and never was, decedent's last will and conference on 04/28/14. Sp.Ntc. testament and that at the time of its Pers.Serv. alleaed execution, said execution was These notes pertain to the procured by fraud, duress and/or undue Conf. Contest and Objection filed by influence by Respondent, Ian W. Screen Patricia English: Mitchinson. The Contestant alleges and 1. Need Summons and **Letters** contends that the latter portion of the proof of service of Duties/Supp document purported to be decedent's Summons. "will" was added without the decedent's **Objections** 2. Need Notice of Hearing. knowledge or consent. Contestant is Video informed and believes that the decedent Receipt never intended to leave his estate or his CI Report "winnings" to the Ian Mitchinson. 4. Contestant alleges that the "will" was not 9202 executed by the decedent and/or Order attested in the manner and in the form Aff. Posting Reviewed by: JF required by law for the due execution of Status Rpt a will. **Reviewed on:** 03/21/14 5. Contestant alleges that on the date of **UCCJEA Updates:** the alleged execution of the "will", Summons Χ **Recommendation:** decedent lacked the requisite **FTB Notice** File 6 – Noroyan testamentary intent. 6. Contestant alleges that Respondent took unfair advantage of the Decedent; that Respondent arranged for the "witnessing" of the purported will; that the will was not the free and voluntary act of decedent; that the "will" was the product of Respondent's undue influence, duress and/or coercion that it unduly profited the Respondent. Continued on Page 2

Case No. 13CEPR00542

Richard Michael Noroyan (Estate)

6 Richard Michael Noroyan (Estate)

Case No. 13CEPR00542

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- 7. Contestant alleges that the underlying agreement is invalid and unenforceable as it is against public policy agreement by its terms and that the agreement is "usurious" and that the express purpose of the loan is contrary to public policy in that it is a gambling related agreement or activity of gambling; and that such agreements are either expressly prohibited by law or are unenforceable as "otherwise contrary to good morals" which is in violation of the public policy of this state.
- 8. Contestant alleges that if the agreement and/or any provision of the agreement is in furtherance of a gambling related agreement or activity it is expressly and impliedly against public policy and that as such it is unenforceable; that the agreement by its terms is unconscionable and if enforced the Respondent would be unjustly enriched; that the Respondent would reap an undue profit; and that the disposition proposed by the instrument is unnatural.
- 9. Contestant alleges that the underlying debt was paid by the decedent, further that the note should have been returned to the decedent marked "paid in full"; and that pursuant to law all terms of the note were discharged upon the payment of debt; or in the alternative that the note and all obligations under the agreement were extinguished upon the payment of the underlying obligation.

Objector/Contestant requests that this Court order that:

- 1. The Contest and Grounds of Objection to Probate of Purported Will be allowed and approved as filed;
- 2. The purported "will" be denied admission to Probate;
- 3. The Petitioner's petition be denied in its entirety;
- 4. The petition be dismissed with prejudice;
- 5. The Contestant be awarded reasonable attorney's fees; and
- 6. The Contestant be awarded costs of the suit.

<u>Note:</u> The following Contest and Grounds for Objection to Probate of Purported Will is not set for hearing until 04/02/14; however, the Examiner has provided a review of this document here for clarity and convenience:

Contest and Grounds for Objection to Probate of Purported Will filed 02/26/14 by Hugo Richard Noroyan (father) states:

- 1. Decedent died on 03/28/13. On 01/23/14, Ian Mitchinson (hereinafter "Respondent") filed in this court a document dated 11/02/12, purporting to be the last will of the decedent, together with a petition requesting that the document be admitted to probate as the decedent's last will and that letters of administration be issued to Respondent.
- 2. Contestant alleges that the document was not executed by decedent and attested in the matter and form required by law for the execution of a will.
- 3. Contestant alleges that the document is not and never was decedent's will and was made at the time of its alleged execution as a result of undue influence, fraud and duress to which decedent was subjected to by Respondent in that:
 - a. At the time the purported will was procured, Respondent knew the decedent had recently won one million dollars at an Indian casino. He also knew decedent was in poor health, had a gambling addiction and as a result he placed his trust and confidence in Respondent who took unfair advantage of decedent's state of mind.
 - b. During the same time period, by reason of the relationship of decedent with Respondent, Respondent was able to exert control and influence over the mind and actions of Decedent to such a point that Decedent was no longer capable of exercising his own conviction or desire with regard to his actions or thoughts, but rather, because of the pressure brought on him by Respondent, both by coercion and entreaty, decedent's convictions or desires became the convictions or desires imposed on him by Respondent.

Continued on Page 3

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- c. During this time, while decedent was under duress and Respondent's undue influence, Respondent wrote the contents or and arranged for witnesses to the document submitted for probate to this court by Respondent. At the time the document was allegedly executed, decedent was wholly under the influence of Respondent and the document does not represent the free and voluntary act of decedent.
- 4. Contestant alleges that the document offered for probate cannot be construed as a conditional will in that:
 - a. The top part of the writing offered for probate is an apparent note for repayment of a gambling debt which on its face is usurious under the law and unenforceable.
 - b. The decedent paid back the debt to Respondent therby extinguishing the terms of the note and therefore there is no relationship between the top part of the writing and the bottom part of the writing, which was written by the Respondent at a different time unbeknownst to the decedent in order to defraud the decedent and unjustly acquire his gambling winnings.

Contestant requests that the purported will be denied probate, for costs of suit and all other proper relief.

Consolidated Answer of Ian W. Mitchinson to Written Oppositions of Probate of Purported Will filed 03/07/14 states:

- 1. Respondent denies all of the allegations in both Oppositions other than to admit that the decedent died on 03/28/13 as a resident of Fresno County and that he was never married and had no children.
- 2. Affirmative defenses are asserted as follows:
 - 1. Failure to state grounds the contest and grounds of opposition to probate of the purported will fails to state facts sufficient to grounds of opposition to probate of the will.
 - 2. Superseding cause Respondent alleges that the Contestants are barred from any recovery by reason of acts or omissions of Contestants and/or others which acts or omissions constitute an intervening or superseding cause of their disinheritance and lack the standing to inherit, if any there be.
 - 3. Excuse Contestants' rights to inherit and any acts or omissions on Contestants' part, if any, are excused by the acts, errors, or omissions and nonperformance of Contestants.
 - 4. Lack of Relationship Respondent alleges that there was no relationship whatsoever between decedent and Contestant Noroyan giving rise to standing as an intestate heir.
 - 5. Lack of Standing Contestant Noroyan lacks standing to assert any ground of contest to the Petition for Probate.
 - 6. Vague, Ambiguous, Uncertain, and Lack of Specificity Contestants' Oppositions and contest of the Petition for Probate and their purported grounds of contest and each of them, are vague, ambiguous, uncertain, and fail to allege adequate specificity required by California law, the California Probate Code and California rules of Civil Procedure.
 - 7. Other defenses Respondent presently has insufficient knowledge or information on which to form a belief as to whether additional affirmative defenses may exist. Accordingly, Respondent reserves the right to assert additional affirmative defenses in the event discovery indicates they would be appropriate.

Respondent requests judgment as follows:

- 1. That the contest and grounds of opposition to the purported will be dismissed with prejudice and Contestants English and Noroyan take nothing by their actions;
- 2. That decedent's estate be admitted to probate and administered according to the will dated 11/02/12; and
- 3. That Respondent be awarded costs of suit.

Wright, Janet L (for Petitioner/Executor Charles O. Phillips)

(1) Petition to Close and Distribute Estate on Waiver of Account and (2) to Approve Payment of Attorney's Statutory Fees

<u> </u>	D. 0/11/13			INFELIX/PROBLEMAX/(()MAMENIX'
l L	DOD: 6/11/13		CHARLES O. PHILLIPS , Executor, is petitioner.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			·	
			Accounting is waived.	
Coi	nt. from		I & A - \$151,423.23	
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		POH - \$142,256.96	
✓	Verified		Executor - waives	
1	Inventory			
1	PTC		Attorney - \$5,542.70 (statutory)	
1	Not.Cred.		,	
✓	Notice of Hrg		Distribution, pursuant to Decedent's Will, is to:	
1	Aff.Mail	W/	Charles O. Phillips - \$20,857.08	
	Aff.Pub.		and ½ interest in real property.	
	Sp.Ntc.		Bernice L. Phillips - \$20,857.08	
	Pers.Serv.		and $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in real property.	
	Conf.			
	Screen	0 / 1 0		
✓	Letters 8/1	9/13		
	Duties/Supp			
	Objections			
	Video Receipt			
	Cl Report			
1	9202			
√	Order			
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 3/21/14
	UCCJEA			Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation: SUBMITTED
✓	FTB Notice			File 7 – Phillips

Armas, J. Todd (for Brent Wise – Executor)

(1) Waiver of Accounting and Petition for Final Distribution and for (2) Allowance of Compensation

DOD: 04/18,		BRENT WISE , executor, is petitioner.		EEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
		Accounting is waived. 1 & A - \$403,171.55	1.	Need Property on Hand Schedule pursuant to California Rules of Court 7.550 b(4).
Cont. from		POH - ?		7.550 B(4).
Aff.Sub.	Wit.	•	2.	Prayer of the Petition does not
✓ Verified		Executor – Waives		include a request for Attorney's Statutory Fees.
Invento	ry	Attorney - \$11,063.43		·
PTC			3.	
Not.Cre	d.			Statement regarding Probate Code
Notice	of Hrg n/a			§216 and Probate Code §9202 re notice to the Director of the Victims
Aff.Mail	n/a			Compensation.
Aff.Pub.				
Sp.Ntc.			4.	Petition does not include a
Pers.Ser	ν.			Statement regarding whether or not
Conf. So				notice to the Franchise Tax Board
Letters	10/08/2013			was performed pursuant to Probate Code §9202(c)(1).
Duties/S	Supp			Code 97202(C)(1).
Objecti	ons		5.	Local Rule 7.12.1 states a petition for
Video				distribution must list and describe in
Receipt				detail all property to be distributed.
CI Repo	ort			The description shall include cash on
√ 9202				hand. Promissory notes must be described as secured or unsecured.
Order	X			If secured, the security interest must be described. The legal description and APN of all real property must be included. Description in the petition of any asset by reference to the inventory is not acceptable.
			6.	Need Order.
Aff. Post	ing			eviewed by: LV
Status R	pt		Re	eviewed on: 03/21/2014
UCCJEA				odates:
Citation				commendation:
FTB Noti	ce x		File	e 8 – Wise

Wade, David D. (of Roseville, Ca. for Kenneth Meme – Petitioner – Son)

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary; Authorization to Administer Under IAEA (Prob. C. 8002, 10450)

DC	D: 08/11/2013		KENNETH MEME, son/named executor	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			without bond, is petitioner.	Need Affidavit of Publication in
			Full IAEA - ok	the correct newspaper pursuant
Со	nt. from 0225	14	Will Dated: 12/01/1989	to Local Rule 7.9A. Petition indicates decedent's residence
	Aff.Sub.Wit.	Х		at the time of death was Fowler,
✓	Verified		Residence: Fowler Publication: The Fresno Bee	California, therefore the correct publication should be The Fowler
	Inventory			Ensign. Petitioner published in the
	PTC		Estimated value of the Estate:	Fresno Bee.
	Not.Cred.		Personal property - \$19,508.00	
✓	Notice of Hrg		Real property - \$180,000.00 Total: - \$199,508.00	
√	Aff.Mail	w/	Probate Referee: Steven Diebert	
	Aff.Pub.	Х		Note: If the petition is granted status
	Sp.Ntc.			hearings will be set as follows:
	Pers.Serv.			• Friday, 08/29/2014 at 9:00a.m.
	Conf.			in Dept. 303 for the filing of the
	Screen			inventory and appraisal <u>and</u>
✓	Letters			inversion, and appraisal <u>arra</u>
1	Duties/Supp			• Friday, 05/29/2015 at 9:00a.m.
Ě	Objections			in Dept. 303 for the filing of the first
	Video			account and final distribution.
	Receipt			Pursuant to Local Rule 7.5 if the required
	Cl Report			documents are filed 10 days prior to the
	9202			hearings on the matter the status
/	Order			hearing will come off calendar and no
 				appearance will be required.
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: LV
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 03/20/2014
	UCCJEA			Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation:
	FTB Notice	<u> </u>		File 9 – Meme

Atty Munsey, Lisa (Pro Per – Petitioner – Daughter)

Atty Walters, Jennifer L. (Court Appointed for Proposed Conservatee)

Petition for Appointment of Probate Conservator of the Person and Estate (Prob. C. 1820, 1821, 2680-2682)

 	1020, 1021, 2000-2002)	
Age: 70		NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
		OFF CALENDAR. AMENDED
		PETITION FILED 03/06/2014.
		HEARING SET FOR
Cont. from		04/16/2014.
Aff.Sub.Wit.		04/10/2014.
Verified		
Inventory		
PTC		
Not.Cred.		
Notice of		
Hrg		
Aff.Mail		
Aff.Pub.		
Sp.Ntc.		
Pers.Serv.		
Conf.		
Screen		
Letters		
Duties/Supp		
Objections		
Video		
Receipt		
CI Report		
9202		
Order		Davis and Land IV
Aff. Posting		Reviewed by: LV
Status Rpt		Reviewed on: 03/24/2014
UCCJEA		Updates:
Citation		Recommendation:
FTB Notice		File 10 – Munsey

Gaytan, Lydia (pro per Petitioner/paternal grandmother)

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person (Prob. C. 1510)

Δα	e: 12 years		Temporary Expires on 3/25/14	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
^9	e. 12 years		Temporary Expires on 0/23/14	WEEDS/TROBLEMS/COMMENTS.
			LYDIA GAYTAN, paternal	
			grandmother, is petitioner.	
			Father: RAYMOND GUIBA – consents	Need proof of personal service of the Nation of Hagging glang with
Со	nt. from		and waives notice.	the Notice of Hearing along with a copy of the Petition or Consent
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		and warves hence.	and Waiver of Notice on:
1	Verified		Mother: MARIE TORREZ – consents and	a. Raymond Guiba III (minor,
	Inventory		waives notice.	age 12)
	PTC	<u> </u>	Paternal grandfather: Raymon Guiba	
	Not.Cred.		– consents and waives notice.	
1	Notice of		Maternal grandfather: Steve Torrez –	
•	Hrg		mailed notice on 1/29/14.	
1	Aff.Mail	W/	Maternal grandmother: Margaret Marin – mailed notice on 1/29/14.	
Ė	Aff.Pub.		Mann - mailea nonce on 1/27/14.	
	Sp.Ntc.		Petitioner states the mother has not	
	Pers.Serv.		been involved in the minor's life.	
1	Conf.		Father is joining the military and	
•	Screen		therefore a guardianship is necessary.	
✓	Letters		Court Investigator Jennifer Young's	
✓	Duties/Supp		Report filed on 3/18/14.	
	Objections			
	Video			
	Receipt			
✓	CI Report			
	9202	1		
✓	Order			
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 3/21/14
✓	UCCJEA			Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation:
	FTB Notice			File 11 – Guiba

Gutierrez, Caress (pro per Petitioner/maternal aunt)

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person (Prob. C. 1510)

Alex age: 4	TEMPORARY EXPIRES: 3/25/14	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
Julian age: 2 Cont. from Aff.Sub.Wit. ✓ Verified Inventory PTC	CARESS GUTIERREZ, maternal aunt, is petitioner. Father: ALEX ORTIZ – Court dispensed with notice per minute order dated 2/6/14 (unless his whereabouts became known, it appears that Mr. Ortiz is currently incarcerated in the Fresno County Jail). Mother: SELINA GUTIERREZ – consents,	 Father, Alex Ortiz is currently (as of 3/21/14) incarcerated in the Fresno County Jail. Need proof of personal service of the Notice of Hearing along with a copy of the Petition or Consent and Waiver of Notice on: Alex Ortiz (father) Need Notice of Hearing.
Not.Cred. Notice of X Hrg Aff.Mail X Aff.Pub. Sp.Ntc. Pers.Serv. X Conf. Screen Letters Duties/Supp Objections Video Receipt CI Report 9202 Order Aff. Posting Status Rpt UCCJEA Citation	per minute order dated 2/6/14. Paternal grandfather: Not listed Paternal grandfather: Not listed Maternal grandmother: Loretta Gutierrez Petitioner states she needs guardianship to care for the minors, take them to school, and obtain medical care. Court Investigator Samantha Henson's Report filed on 3/18/14.	 Petition does not include the name and address of the paternal grandfather and the maternal grandfather. Need proof of service of the Notice of Hearing along with a copy of the Petition or Consent and Waiver of Notice or Declaration of Due Diligence on: Paternal grandfather Norma Leyva (paternal grandmother) Maternal grandfather Loretta Gutierrez (maternal grandmother) Reviewed by: KT Reviewed on: 3/21/14 Updates:
FTB Notice		Recommendation: File 12 – Ortiz

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	relilion to betermine succession to kedi riopeny (riob. C. 13131)				
DOD: 9/27/1995			RICHARD E. LAINE, son, is petitioner.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:	
			40 days since DOD.	Need date of death of decease spouse, Eugene Laine, pursuant	
			No other proceedings.	to Local Rule 7.1.1D.	
Co	nt. from	1			
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		Will dated 1/1/1990 – devises entire		
✓	Verified		estate to decedent's spouse, Eugene Laine, if he survives. If Eugene does no		
✓	Inventory		survive the entire estate passes to		
✓	PTC		petitioner, Richard E. Laine.		
	Not.Cred.		I & A - \$140,000.00		
✓	Notice of Hrg		Petitioner requests decedent's 100%		
✓	Aff.Mail	W/	interest in real property pass to him pursuant to decedent's Will.		
	Aff.Pub.		•		
	Sp.Ntc.				
	Pers.Serv.				
	Conf.				
	Screen				
	Letters				
	Duties/Supp				
	Objections				
	Video				
	Receipt				
	CI Report				
	9202				
✓	Order				
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT	
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 3/23/14	
	UCCJEA			Updates:	
	Citation			Recommendation:	
	FTB Notice			File 13 – Laine	

Medeiros, Brandy (pro per Petitioner/paternal grandmother)

Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardianship of the Person

Age: 1 year			GENERAL HEARING 5/13/14	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
	c. i yeui		OLITERAL HEARING 3/10/14	TTEEDS/TROBLEMS/COMMENTS.
			BRANDY MEDEIROS , paternal grandmother, is petitioner.	Notice of Hearing is incomplete at #1. It does not list the name of the person who filed the
Cont. from			Father: GABRIEL MEDEIROS – personally	documents and what documents
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		served on 3/15/14.	were filed.
✓	Verified			
	Inventory		Mother: AMBER LOPEZ – personally served on 3/15/14.	
	PTC		361764 0113/13/14.	
	Not.Cred.		Paternal grandfather: Louie Ponce	
✓	Notice of Hrg		Maternal grandfather: Not Listed Maternal grandmother: Elaine Franco	
	Aff.Mail		Petitioner states her grandson is	
	Aff.Pub.		neglected. He comes back with	
	Sp.Ntc.		bruises and a bad rash. He has a skin	
✓	Pers.Serv.	W/	W/ condition that is not being taken care of. Petitioner states she wants her	
✓	Conf. Screen		grandson in a safe home	
√	Letters		environment.	
√	Duties/Supp			
	Objections			
	Video			
	Receipt			
	CI Report			
	9202			
✓	Order			
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT
	Status Rpt	<u> </u>		Reviewed on: 3/24/14
✓	UCCJEA			Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation:
	FTB Notice			File 14 – Medeiros

Pro Per Pro Per

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Benson, Johnny Lee (Pro Per Petitioner, paternal grandfather) Benson, Paulette (Pro Per Petitioner, paternal grandmother)

Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardianship of the Person (Prob. C. 2250)

Age: 13 years			General Hearing set for 5/19/2014	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/ COMMENTS:
			JOHNNY LEE BENSON and PAULETTE BENSON, paternal grandparents, are Petitioners.	
Cont. from		ı	Father: SHAWN LEE BENSON ; consents and waives	
Aff.Sub.Wit. ✓ Verified			notice.	
	Inventory		Mother: JEANINE EVALEEN AVALLI ; consents and waives	
	PTC		notice.	
	Notice of	N/A	Minor consents and waives notice.	
	Hrg Aff.Mail		Maternal grandfather: Mario Avalli	
	Aff.Pub.		Maternal grandmother: Sharon Scagliotti	
	Sp.Ntc. Pers.Serv.		Petitioners state the child requires a temporary guardian	
✓	Conf. Screen		as CPS has become involved and advised the Petitioners to file for immediate guardianship due to the	
✓	Letters		parents both having long histories of substance abuse, instability, and excessive consumption of alcohol.	
✓	Duties/Supp		Petitioners state the father has been incarcerated 3	
	Objections		times stemming from domestic violence between he	
	Video Receipt		and the child's mother during their marriage. Petitioners state they have been caring for the child since 2009,	
	CI Report		when he came to reside with them by request of the	
	9202		child and agreement from the parents due to the	
✓	Order		child's fear and concern about continuing to reside	
	Aff. Posting		with his parents. Petitioners state the father took the minor into his custody in ~November 2013, and on	Reviewed by: LEG
	Status Rpt		2/12/2014 at 7:00 am, the minor called Petitioners	Reviewed on: 3/24/14
✓	UCCJEA		stating he was scared as his parents were fighting,	Updates:
	Citation FTB Notice		drinking and using drugs in his presence and asked Petitioners to come get him, which they did, and following Coalinga police interview of the child later	Recommendation: File 15 – Benson
			that day, CPS placed the child with Petitioners.	

Atty Guerrero, Eva (pro per – maternal grandmother/Petitioner)

Guerrero, Anthony (pro per – maternal grandfather/Petitioner)

Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardianship of the Person

Age: 16			GENERAL HEARING 05/19/14	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			EVA GUERRERO and ANTHONY GUERRERO , maternal grandparents, are Petitioners.	Need proof of personal service at least 5 court days before the hearing of Notice of Hearing with a copy of the Petition for
Со	nt. from		Father: MICHAEL ABRANTES	Appointment of Guardian of the
✓	Aff.Sub.Wit. Verified		Mother: REBECCA HARRON	Person <u>or</u> Consent & Waiver of Notice <u>or</u> Declaration of Due
	Inventory		Paternal grandfather: MICHAEL	Diligence for: - Michael Abrantes (father)
	PTC		ABRANTES – deceased	- Rebecca Harron (mother)
	Not.Cred.		Paternal grandmother: JODY MARTINEZ	- Brittani Guerrero (minor)
√	Notice of		Cibility on AALCHAEL ADDANITES In	
	Hrg Aff.Mail		Sibling: MICHAEL ABRANTES, Jr.	
	Aff.Pub.		Petitioners allege that temporary	
	Sp.Ntc.		guardianship is needed because the	
		Χ	minor needs dental work and to	
√	Conf.	^	prevent the minor's mother from coming and picking her up. The	
	Screen		mother abuses drugs and alcohol and is	
√	Letters		homeless. The father is incarcerated	
√	Duties/Supp		and does not want the responsibility of	
	Objections		children.	
	Video			
	Receipt			
	CI Report			
	9202			
✓	Order			5
\vdash	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: JF
√	Status Rpt UCCJEA			Reviewed on: 03/24/14 Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation:
	FTB Notice			File 16 – Guerrero-Abrantes
	1.12.110.1100			14